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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

DATE DISTR 17 MAR 50

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY Rumania

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT Manufacture and Import of Bearings

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. All bearings manufactured in Rumania are produced at the Steagul Rosu (formerly Astra Vagoane) plant in Brasov. The equipment of this plant includes four Soviet centerless machines, four (sic) planers of Soviet manufacture, a machine of [redacted] manufacture (not further identified) and a measuring instrument made by Johannesen [redacted] which was transferred from the IAR factory in Brasov.

2. The quality of chrome alloys steel used in bearings manufactured by Steagul Rosu is described as fairly good. Bearings turned out by this plant, however, have been frequently rejected for improper tolerances. The former Malaxa plant recently rejected a shipment of bearings for failure to meet specifications relative to tolerance. A recent trial run of a railroad train between Brasov and Sibiu was hampered by several failures of bearings.

3. It is not believed that any sizeable quantity of bearings is being imported from the USSR. The Rumanian bearing industry is attempting to reach a production of 10,000 units per month, but lack of adequate machinery makes achievement of this goal unlikely. The cost of production in Rumania is approximately five times [redacted]

4. Production of bearings produced at the Steagul Rosu plant during December 1949 and January 1950 is reported as follows ([redacted] these statistics may be somewhat padded):

December 1949

| Quantity Produced | Bore Size | Type | Industrial Use |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1,400 | 50 cm bore | taper | Mine cars |
| 100 | 60 cm bore | spherical | tractors |
| 60 | 130 cm bore | spherical | petroleum |
| 10 | 110 cm bore (approx) | spherical | railway |
| 140 | | cylindrical | electric motors |
| 100 | | cylindrical | |
| 50 | 80 cm bore | spherical | petroleum |

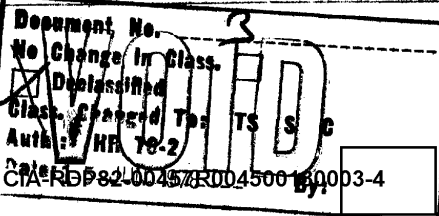
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This document is hereby regraded to
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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January 1950

| <u>Quantity Produced</u> | <u>Bore Size</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Industrial Use</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 6,000 | 50 cm bore | taper | mine cars |
| 100 | | cylindrical | petroleum |
| 100 | | cylindrical | petroleum |
| 100 | | cylindrical | petroleum |

5. During January 1950 the Steagul Rosu plant was to employ 400 workers.

6. During 1949, the Rumanian Government attempted without success to purchase [redacted] bearings [redacted] Shortly thereafter fifty-eight cases of these bearings were forwarded to Rumania [redacted]

7. Sovromtractor, the joint Soviet-Rumanian tractor manufacturing company, recently purchased the following bearings from RIV (Officina Villar Persosa) of Turin:

| <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Cost</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 2,000 | \$35,430 |
| 2,000 | \$43,000 |

[redacted] Comment: Not a standard catalog item.

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